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7-31-02  
PATENT

Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 07965.0004-00000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
James B. GODDARD, et al. ) Group Art Unit: 3627  
Application No.: 10/037,219 )  
Examiner: Unknown  
Filed: November 9, 2001 )  
For: PIPE HAVING WATER-TIGHT )  
IN-LINE BELL )  
Commissioner for Patents )  
Washington, DC 20231  
Sir:

RECEIVED  
JUL 11 2002  
GROUP 3600

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to the examination of the above application, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add the following new claims:

Subcl>

18. In a corrugated pipe comprising two sections joined by telescopically mating a male end of one section with a female end of the other section, the improvement comprising:

an annular sealing element fixed to the exterior surface of the male end and disposed to sealingly engage the interior surface of the female end; and

an annular band of reinforcing material disposed around the exterior surface of the female end at a position along the longitudinal axis thereof that is in general alignment with the sealing element, the reinforcing material resisting loss of sealing engagement between the female end and the sealing element during use of the pipe.

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